

# Border 2012 U.S. – Mexico Environmental Program

Cooperative Enforcement and  
Compliance Borderwide Workgroup

Working Session

8:00 – 10:30, Thursday April 27





# Objective 1

By 2006, increase by 50% the number of industries along the U.S.-Mexico border implementing voluntary compliance and/or self audits (such as the development of an Environmental Management System [EMS] or participation in voluntary assessment programs), using 2003 as a baseline year.



# 50% Increase Surpassed!

- In 2003, 307 companies in the six Mexican border states participated in the environmental audit program. Now there are 480 companies showing an increase of 173 companies or 56%.
- EPA Regions and States assisted companies with 11 EMS's in 2003, and by the end of 2006, expect an additional 45 will be in place.



# Next Steps for Obj. 1

- **NEW GOAL: Increase another 50% by 2009**
  - Integrate all Mexican high risk facilities into Auditoria Ambiental
  - Continue to assist facilities to develop EMS's and seek resources to aid small businesses
  - Encourage state level auditing and EMS programs to build on federal efforts



## Objective 2

By 2006, determine the pollution sources in the border area that present high risks to human health and the environment that are subject to regulation and set priorities for actions to lower the risk.





# Established Priorities for Obj. 2

- Legislative mandate for inspection of "High Risk" pollution sources in Mexico.
- Transboundary Shipments of Hazardous Wastes.



# Additional Priorities

- Using Data to Identify the Pollution Sources that Present the Highest Risks
  - Border Compliance Prioritization Tool
  - Existing data from permits/licenses
- Coordinate prioritization methodologies
- **Regional Workgroups to determine local priorities.**



## Objective 3

By 2012, increase compliance in the priority areas determined in Objective 2 by assessing and responding to citizen complaints, compliance assistance, compliance incentives, compliance monitoring, and enforcement to reduce the risks from non-compliant facilities and encourage voluntary pollution prevention.





## On Going Activities for Obj. 3

- Radio Frequency Identification Pilot
- Border Compliance Assistance Center
- Waste inspections at border crossings
- Improving sampling methodology for wastes in customs zone
- New EPA website tool for citizen complaints (badge icon at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov))



# Additional Activities We Plan to Undertake

- Joint, bi-national inspections in priority areas determined by regional workgroups
- Strengthen our inspection presence at ports of entry and coordination with Customs/Aduanas
- Improve performance indicators to show increased compliance and pollution reduction